

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503


MAR 8 1974

Mr. Angus MacLean Thuermer
Assistant to the Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Angus:

There are times when the news media is painfully accurate. This was one of those times. Another time was in a recent book, an excerpt from which I enclose for your amusement, if not edification.

All the best,


Joseph Laitin

Enclosure

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AUTHORS DISCUSS CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

MODERATOR: MARTIN AGRONSKY

GUESTS: Tad Szulc, author of Compulsive

David Weiss, author of The
and The Invisible Government

P-Szulc, TAD

P-Weiss, DAVID

Soc 4.01.2 Compulsive
Spy

The Politics of
Lying & The Invisible
Government

CIA 1.04 Hunt, Howard

CIA 1.02 Bissell, Richard

CIA 2.06.1

CIA 3.02.1

Soc 4.01.1 Frederick
Prager, Inc.

CIA 1.01 Helms, Richard

MARTIN AGRONSKY: Good evening. For many Americans one of the most disturbing revelations of the Watergate scandal was the partisan political use of U. S. intelligence agencies that was demonstrated. When testimony to the Senate Watergate Committee uncovered the so-called Houston Plan to create a secret White House intelligence operation, Senator Sam Ervin had the name for it. He charged its White House authors with the same mentality as the Gestapo in Nazi Germany.

And now recent newspaper accounts report allegations that the CIA used E. Howard Hunt during the 1964 presidential campaign to gather information on Senator Goldwater, though so far it's been impossible to confirm that.

Well, tonight on Evening Edition a discussion of the Central Intelligence Agency--the CIA--with Tad Szulc, author of Compulsive Spy, a report on the career of E. Howard Hunt, one of the CIA's most ineffective agents, and David Weiss, author of two books: The Politics of Lying and The Invisible Government, which is a fascinating report on the Central Intelligence Agency itself.

Gentlemen, you've both devoted a lot of time to studying the activities and operations of the Central Intelligence Agency, and I wonder if we can begin by asking both of you whether or not you think we need a CIA? Do you, David?